

Michigan Motorcycle Action Team

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Present

Vince Consiglio – Abate of Michigan
Peggy Hines – MI Dept. of State
Lori Thomas – MI Dept. of State
Dan Meredith – MI Dept. of State
Quinn Passmore – Ofc. of Hwy Safety Planning
Patricia Heiler – MI Dept. of State
Butch Brown – Abate of Michigan
Dan Petterson - SMARTER
Monica Yesh – Transportation Improvement Association
Gary Kopta – Abate of Michigan

Roll Call

The Michigan Motorcycle Action Team meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM.

Financial Report Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Status

Patricia Heiler provided a historical overview of the Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Fund. She reported that each year the Legislature determines on how much money is allocated to the fund. As of December 16, 2022, the fund has approximately \$600,000 in it. The funds are being spent on the “Look Twice Save a Life” campaign. This campaign works to educate all motorists on motorcycle awareness and how to be safe on the road around motorcyclists. Vince Consiglio requested a printed report of the budget. Vince also discussed safety campaigns he has seen in Wisconsin. Patricia will reach out to Wisconsin to obtain further information to see if the campaign messaging is something Michigan would like to pursue.

Michigan Rider Education Program (MI-REP) FY 2023 Grant –Progress Report

Dan Meredith presented statistics on motorcyclist classes being held throughout the state, thus far in 2023. He also discussed the total students enrolled in courses as well as the pass, fail, incomplete, and no-show percentages in 2023 for both Basic Rider Courses and Advanced Rider Courses. Incident reports from 2021-2022 were discussed as well as incident reports thus far in 2023. Dan Meredith presented on the two skills tests that appear to have a higher percentage of incidents compared to others. He will provide a copy of the statistics upon request to attendees.

Further discussion took place on obtaining a clear definition of what constitutes an “incident”. Dan Petterson suggested that MI-REP staff obtain incident report data from other states through the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) which would allow analysis to be completed between Michigan and other states. It was suggested that a clear definition of incidents and reporting requirements for all sponsors be researched, developed, and shared.

Vince Consiglio requested a report on how the grant funds were distributed for 2023.

Round Table Discussion/Updates

Vince Consiglio discussed RiderCoach training and that there appears to be an issue with the number of no-shows at classes. He also expressed a need for more RiderCoaches. Vince suggested that people interested in becoming a RiderCoach be given more information on the commitment time frame on becoming a RiderCoach as there is an issue with people not coming back for the second part of the class. Vince then spoke about the difficulty in getting approved to add a new range. Vince inquired about having

an annual meeting between the Michigan Rider Education Program staff and sponsors, both public and private, as one hasn't been held in many years.

Peggy Hines discussed that the 2022 Michigan traffic crash statistics are available through the Michigan State Police Traffic Crash Reporting System. A high-level overview of motorcycle involved crashes were discussed.

Lori Thomas discussed that MI-REP staff are evaluating state-wide needs for basic rider course training, RiderCoach training and potentially expanding courses into Northern Michigan and other areas of the state that are underserved.

Dan Petterson discussed autonomous vehicles and the lack of both State and Federal regulations related to these vehicles. Concerns were expressed regarding the inability of some autonomous vehicles to recognize motorcycles. He also discussed SMARTER's involvement with a coalition which is involved in raising awareness of safety concerns involving autonomous vehicles.

Action Items

Patricia Heiler: Provide a copy of the financial balance/allocation of the Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Fund.

Peggy Hines: Provide a copy of the MI-REP state grants awarded in 2023.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 AM.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 9:00 AM Michigan State Police Headquarters